

The "ABCs" of Acts – Bellevue Church of Christ

Auditorium Class – Summer / Fall 2014

"We" sections in Acts (16:10-17; 20:5 – 21:1-18)

Z:

Acts Chapter 27 & 28

\* (2) Sailed on a ship from Adramyttium.

\* (2) Accompanied by Aristarchus.

\* (2-8) First leg of the voyage:

->Sidon (3)

->Cyprus (4)

->Cilicia (5)

->Pamphylia (5)

->Myra (5)

->Cnidus (7)

->Crete (7)

->Fair Havens (8)

\* (4,7-8) Sailing was difficult due to the wind being against them.

**"Paul stood up"**

Paul is transitioning from prisoner to leader of this voyage.

\* (27) They were adrift at sea for 14-days

\* (27-29) The sailors suspected they were nearing land.

\* (30-32) The sailors attempt to leave the ship, but Paul convinces the Centurion to stop them.

\* (40) They cast off the anchors and loosed the rudders trying to make it to the beach.

\* (41) The boat struck a reef and began to be broken apart by the crashing of the sea.

<sup>1</sup> And when it was decided that we should sail for **Italy**, they delivered Paul and some other prisoners to a centurion of the **Augustan Cohort** named **Julius**.

<sup>9</sup> Since much time had passed, and the *voyage was now dangerous* because even **the Fast was already over**, Paul advised them, <sup>10</sup> saying, "**Sirs, I perceive that the voyage will be with injury and much loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives.**" <- Paul had experience with shipwreck (2Co 11:25)

<sup>11</sup> But the **centurion paid more attention to the pilot** and to the **owner of the ship** than to what Paul said.

<sup>20</sup> When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and **no small tempest lay on us, all hope of our being saved was at last abandoned.** <- They knew no other course of action

<sup>21</sup> Since they **had been without food for a long time**, Paul stood up among them and said, "**Men, you should have listened to me** and not have set sail from Crete and incurred this injury and loss.

<sup>22</sup> Yet now I urge you to take heart, for there will be **no loss of life among you**, but **only of the ship.** <- Compare to v.10

<sup>23</sup> For this very night there stood before me an **angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I worship,**

<sup>24</sup> and he said, '**Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar.** And behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you.' <- God had previously told Paul he would go to Rome (23:11)

<sup>25</sup> So take heart, men, for **I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have been told.**

<sup>26</sup> But **we must run aground on some island.**"

<sup>33</sup> As day was about to dawn, Paul urged them all to take some food, saying, "**Today is the fourteenth day that you have continued in suspense and without food, having taken nothing.**

<sup>34</sup> Therefore **I urge you to take some food. For it will give you strength, for not a hair is to perish from the head of any of you.**"

<sup>38</sup> And when they had eaten enough, **they lightened the ship, throwing out the wheat into the sea.**

<sup>39</sup> Now when it was day, **they did not recognize the land**, but they noticed a bay with a beach, on which they planned if possible to **run the ship ashore.**

<sup>42</sup> The soldiers' **plan was to kill the prisoners, lest any should swim away and escape.**

<sup>43</sup> But the **centurion, wishing to save Paul, kept them from carrying out their plan.** He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and make for the land,

<sup>44</sup> and the rest on planks or on pieces of the ship. And so it was that **all were brought safely to land.**

**"Fast was already over"**

-Refers to the Day of Atonement

-This places the journey in the Winter months.

-Wind would be blowing to the East.

\* (12) Decided to try and make it to Phoenix for the winter.

\* (13-16) Second leg of the Journey:

->Crete (13)

->Cauda (16)

\* (14) Faced a serious storm (northeaster)

\* (18-19) Began to jettison cargo and gear.

\* (35-37) They all ate at Paul's urging.

\* (35) Paul gave thanks to God for the food.

\* (37) There were 276 people onboard the ship.

**"kill the prisoners"**

The punishment for allowing a prisoner to escape was death (compare 12:19)

\* (3) After starting a campfire, Paul was bitten by a snake

\* (4) The natives assumed this meant that Paul deserved to die ("murderer")

\* (6) After seeing that he did not die, they assumed he was a "god."

\* (7-9) Paul healed the island chief's father and many others who were sick

Paul would have a better chance at a fair hearing since they were not aware of the charges from Jerusalem.

\* (21) The Jews in Rome had no knowledge of the charges against Paul

\* (22) These same Jews were familiar with Christianity and knew that Jews spoke against it everywhere.

<sup>1</sup> After we were brought safely through, we then learned that the island was called **Malta**. <- 58 miles south of Sicily

<sup>2</sup> The **native people showed us unusual kindness**, for they kindled a fire and welcomed us all, because it had begun to rain and was cold.

<sup>11</sup> After three months we set sail in a ship that had wintered in the island, a ship of **Alexandria**, with the **twin gods** as a figurehead.

<sup>16</sup> And when we came into Rome, **Paul** was **allowed to stay by himself**, with the soldier who guarded him. <- Private Quarters

<sup>17</sup> After three days he called together the **local leaders of the Jews**, and when they had gathered, he said to them, "Brothers, though I had done nothing against our people or the customs of our fathers, yet I was delivered as a prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans.

<sup>18</sup> When they had examined me, they wished to set me at liberty, because there was no reason for the death penalty in my case.

<sup>19</sup> But **because the Jews objected**, I was compelled to appeal to **Caesar**—though I had no charge to bring against my nation.

<sup>20</sup> For this reason, therefore, I have asked to see you and speak with you, since it is because of the **hope of Israel** that I am wearing this chain." <- Acts 23:6; 24:21; 26:6-8

<sup>23</sup> When they had **appointed a day for him**, they came to him at his lodging in **greater numbers**. From morning till evening he expounded to them, testifying to the **kingdom of God** and trying to convince them about Jesus both from the **Law of Moses** and from the **Prophets**. <- Rom 3:21

<sup>24</sup> And some were convinced by what he said, but others disbelieved.

<sup>25</sup> And disagreeing among themselves, they departed after **Paul** had made one statement: "The **Holy Spirit** was right in saying to your fathers through Isaiah the prophet: <- Isa 6:9-10

<sup>26</sup> "Go to this people, and say, "**You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive.**"

<sup>27</sup> **For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed; lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.**"

<sup>28</sup> Therefore let it be known to you that this salvation of God **has been sent to the Gentiles**; they will listen."

<sup>30</sup> He lived there **two whole years** at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him,

<sup>31</sup> **proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.**

"twin gods"

-Likely Castor and Pollux

-Roman gods of salvation.

\* (12-14) The final leg of the journey:

-> Syracuse (12)

-> Rhegium (13)

-> Puteoli (13)

-> Rome (14)

\* (15) Fellow Christians came from all around the area to meet Paul in Rome.

\*Matt 13:13-15

\*Mark 4:12

\*Luke 8:10

\*John 12:39-40

\*Rom 11:7-8

Sections Not in Handout

**Acts 27:2–8 (ESV)**

<sup>2</sup> And embarking in a ship of Adramyttium, which was about to sail to the ports along the coast of Asia, we put to sea, accompanied by Aristarchus, a Macedonian from Thessalonica. <sup>3</sup> The next day we put in at Sidon. And Julius treated Paul kindly and gave him leave to go to his friends and be cared for. <sup>4</sup> And putting out to sea from there we sailed under the lee of Cyprus, because the winds were against us. <sup>5</sup> And when we had sailed across the open sea along the coast of Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra in Lycia. <sup>6</sup> There the centurion found a ship of Alexandria sailing for Italy and put us on board. <sup>7</sup> We sailed slowly for a number of days and arrived with difficulty off Cnidus, and as the wind did not allow us to go farther, we sailed under the lee of Crete off Salmone. <sup>8</sup> Coasting along it with difficulty, we came to a place called Fair Havens, near which was the city of Lasea.

**Acts 27:12–19 (ESV)**

<sup>12</sup> And because the harbor was not suitable to spend the winter in, the majority decided to put out to sea from there, on the chance that somehow they could reach Phoenix, a harbor of Crete, facing both southwest and northwest, and spend the winter there.

<sup>13</sup> Now when the south wind blew gently, supposing that they had obtained their purpose, they weighed anchor and sailed along Crete, close to the shore. <sup>14</sup> But soon a tempestuous wind, called the northeaster, struck down from the land. <sup>15</sup> And when the ship was caught and could not face the wind, we gave way to it and were driven along. <sup>16</sup> Running under the lee of a small island called Cauda, we managed with difficulty to secure the ship's boat. <sup>17</sup> After hoisting it up, they used supports to undergird the ship. Then, fearing that they would run aground on the Syrtis, they lowered the gear, and thus they were driven along. <sup>18</sup> Since we were violently storm-tossed, they began the next day to jettison the cargo. <sup>19</sup> And on the third day they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands.

**Acts 27:27–32 (ESV)**

<sup>27</sup> When the fourteenth night had come, as we were being driven across the Adriatic Sea, about midnight the sailors suspected that they were nearing land. <sup>28</sup> So they took a sounding and found twenty fathoms. A little farther on they took a sounding again and found fifteen fathoms. <sup>29</sup> And fearing that we might run on the rocks, they let down four anchors from the stern and prayed for day to come. <sup>30</sup> And as the sailors were seeking to escape from the ship, and had lowered the ship's boat into the sea under pretense of laying out anchors from the bow, <sup>31</sup> Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, “Unless these men stay in the ship, you cannot be saved.” <sup>32</sup> Then the soldiers cut away the ropes of the ship's boat and let it go.

**Acts 27:35–37 (ESV)**

<sup>35</sup> And when he had said these things, he took bread, and giving thanks to God in the presence of all he broke it and began to eat. <sup>36</sup> Then they all were encouraged and ate some food themselves. <sup>37</sup> (We were in all 276 persons in the ship.)

**Acts 27:40–41 (ESV)**

<sup>40</sup> So they cast off the anchors and left them in the sea, at the same time loosening the ropes that tied the rudders. Then hoisting the foresail to the wind they made for the beach. <sup>41</sup> But striking a reef, they ran the vessel aground. The bow stuck and remained immovable, and the stern was being broken up by the surf.

**Acts 28:3–10 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> When Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and put them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat and fastened on his hand. <sup>4</sup> When the native people saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, “No doubt this man is a murderer. Though he has escaped from the sea, Justice has not allowed him to live.” <sup>5</sup> He, however, shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm. <sup>6</sup> They were waiting for him to swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But when they had waited a long time and saw no misfortune come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god.

<sup>7</sup> Now in the neighborhood of that place were lands belonging to the chief man of the island, named Publius, who received us and entertained us hospitably for three days. <sup>8</sup> It happened that the father of Publius lay sick with fever and dysentery. And Paul visited him and prayed, and putting his hands on him healed him. <sup>9</sup> And when this had taken place, the rest of the people on the island who had diseases also came and were cured. <sup>10</sup> They also honored us greatly, and when we were about to sail, they put on board whatever we needed.

**Acts 28:12–15 (ESV)**

<sup>12</sup> Putting in at Syracuse, we stayed there for three days. <sup>13</sup> And from there we made a circuit and arrived at Rhegium. And after one day a south wind sprang up, and on the second day we came to Puteoli. <sup>14</sup> There we found brothers and were invited to stay with them for seven days. And so we came to Rome. <sup>15</sup> And the brothers there, when they heard about us, came as far as the Forum of Appius and Three Taverns to meet us. On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage.

**Acts 28:21–22 (ESV)**

<sup>21</sup> And they said to him, “We have received no letters from Judea about you, and none of the brothers coming here has reported or spoken any evil about you. <sup>22</sup> But we desire to hear from you what your views are, for with regard to this sect we know that everywhere it is spoken against.”

**Shipwreck**

**2 Corinthians 11:25 (ESV)**

<sup>25</sup> Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I wasadrift at sea;

**Go to Rome**

**Acts 23:11 (ESV)**

<sup>11</sup> The following night the Lord stood by him and said, “Take courage, for as you have testified to the facts about me in Jerusalem, so you must testify also in Rome.”

Escape

**Acts 12:19 (ESV)**

<sup>19</sup> And after Herod searched for him and did not find him, he examined the sentries and ordered that they should be put to death. Then he went down from Judea to Caesarea and spent time there.

Hope of Israel

**Acts 23:6 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup> Now when Paul perceived that one part were Sadducees and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, “Brothers, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees. It is with respect to the hope and the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial.”

**Acts 24:21 (ESV)**

<sup>21</sup> other than this one thing that I cried out while standing among them: ‘It is with respect to the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial before you this day.’ ”

**Acts 26:6–8 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup> And now I stand here on trial because of my hope in the promise made by God to our fathers,<sup>7</sup> to which our twelve tribes hope to attain, as they earnestly worship night and day. And for this hope I am accused by Jews, O king! <sup>8</sup> Why is it thought incredible by any of you that God raises the dead?

Law and Prophets

**Romans 3:21 (ESV)**

<sup>21</sup> But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—

The Prophet

**Isaiah 6:9–10 (ESV)**

<sup>9</sup> And he said, “Go, and say to this people:

“ ‘Keep on hearing, but do not understand;  
keep on seeing, but do not perceive.’ ”

<sup>10</sup> Make the heart of this people dull,  
and their ears heavy,  
and blind their eyes;  
lest they see with their eyes,  
and hear with their ears,  
and understand with their hearts,  
and turn and be healed.”

**Matthew 13:13–15 (ESV)**

<sup>13</sup> This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.<sup>14</sup> Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says:

“ ‘ “You will indeed hear but never understand,  
and you will indeed see but never perceive.”  
<sup>15</sup> For this people’s heart has grown dull,  
and with their ears they can barely hear,  
and their eyes they have closed,  
lest they should see with their eyes  
and hear with their ears  
and understand with their heart  
and turn, and I would heal them.’

**Mark 4:12 (ESV)**

<sup>12</sup> so that

“they may indeed see but not perceive,  
and may indeed hear but not understand,  
lest they should turn and be forgiven.”

**Luke 8:10 (ESV)**

<sup>10</sup> he said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that ‘seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’

**John 12:39–40 (ESV)**

<sup>39</sup> Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said,

<sup>40</sup> “He has blinded their eyes  
and hardened their heart,  
lest they see with their eyes,  
and understand with their heart, and turn,  
and I would heal them.”

**Romans 11:7–8 (ESV)**

<sup>7</sup> What then? Israel failed to obtain what it was seeking. The elect obtained it, but the rest were hardened,<sup>8</sup> as it is written,

“God gave them a spirit of stupor,  
eyes that would not see  
and ears that would not hear,  
down to this very day.”